

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This response is respectfully submitted in response to the final Office Action dated January 25, 2006 and follows an in-person interview and three follow-up telephone discussions summarized below in the Interview Summary included herewith.

I. Introduction

The Examiner agreed during the May 3, 2006 discussion that amending claims 1 and 11 would render the claims patentable thereby placing the application in condition for allowance. The Examiner indicated he would implement the amendment by way of an Examiner's Amendment. Applicant's representative thanks the Examiner for his suggestions with respect to amending claims 1 and 11 and for the time spent during the in person interview and follow-up discussions summarized below.

Claims 1-24 are pending. Claims 1 and 11 have been amended by Examiner's Amendment to place the application in condition for allowance. As amended, the claims are definite and distinguish over the applied references for the reasons discussed during the interview summary included herewith and Interview Discussion Outline attached hereto as an Appendix

In view of the above amendments and arguments raised in the Interview Discussion outline and discussed during the interview, it is respectfully submitted that all the pending claims are now patentable and that the application is in condition for allowance.

II. Interview Summary

This interview summary is presented in the format suggested by the Patent Office.

1. **Application Number:** 09/933,063
2. **Name of Applicant:** William D. Goodman
3. **Name of Examiner:** Randy Peaches
4. **Date of Interview:** April 20, 2006
Follow-up Discussions May 1, 3 and 24, 2006
5. **Type of Interview:** In-Person (initial April 20, 2006 Interview)
Telephone (follow-up discussions)
6. **Name of Participants:**
Examiners: Randy Peaches; and
the Examiner's Supervisor believed to be
Charles Appiah

Applicants' Rep: Michael P. Straub, Reg. No. 36,941
7. **Exhibit(s) Shown:** None (A Discussion Outline Attached hereto as an Appendix was submitted prior to the interview)
8. **Claims discussed:** The independent claims were discussed as well as claims 21-24.
9. **Prior Art Discussed:**
Basson et al. (U.S. Patent Publication Number 2002/0146978).
U.S. Patent No. 6,487,413 to Suojasto
U.S. Patent No. 5,659,596 to Dunn
U.S. Patent No. 6,192,243 B1 to Yang et al
U.S. Patent Number 6,535,745 B1 to Seraj
10. **Proposed Amendments discussed:**
Amending claims 1 and 11 was discussed during the follow-up discussions.

**11. Discussion of General Thrust
of the Principal Arguments**

Applicant's representative argued that claims 21-24 should have been entered and considered. The Examiners agreed that the claims should have been entered and indicated they would be considered. Applicants also argued that the claims were patentable for the reasons set forth in the Interview Discussion outline attached hereto as an Appendix. The attached Interview Discussion outline was submitted immediately prior to the interview by E-mail.

During the follow-up discussions, Applicants discussed support in the specification for the estimating step recited in claim 1 and the Examiner suggested clarifying changes to independent claims 1 and 11 which the Examiner offered to make by way of an Examiner's Amendment. The Examiner indicated that the amendment would make the claims clearer, thereby putting them and the application in condition for allowance. Applicant's undersigned representative authorized the amendment on May 24, 2006.

The amendments to claims 1 and 11 which were agreed to were as follows:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of estimating the number of people in a geographic region of interest ~~processing active wireless device statistics~~, the method comprising:
receiving statistics indicating the number of active wireless devices in at least one communications cell;
processing said received statistics to generate an estimate of
~~estimating the number of people in a said geographic region of interest from the number of active wireless devices indicated by the received statistics.~~

Claim 11 (currently amended): A method of estimating the number of people in a geographic region of interest and predicting characteristics of the people in said geographic region of interest ~~processing active wireless device statistics~~, the method comprising:
receiving statistics on the number and type of active wireless devices in at least one communications cell;

~~estimating~~ the number of people in a said geographic region of interest ~~from the received statistics on the number of active wireless devices; and~~
predicting characteristics of the people in ~~the~~ said geographic region of interest from the type and number of active wireless devices in the geographic region of interest.

12. Other Pertinent Matters Discussed: None

13. General Results/Outcome of Interview

The Examiner indicated that he would amend claims 1 and 11, thereby placing the application in condition for allowance.

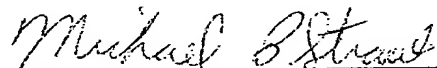
III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the Examiner pass this application to issue.

If there are any outstanding issues which need to be resolved to place the application in condition for allowance the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative by phone to discuss and hopefully resolve said issues. To the extent necessary, a petition for extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made, the fee for which should be charged to Patent Office deposit account number 50-1049.

Respectfully submitted,

May 25, 2006


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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper (and any accompanying paper(s)) is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patents and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Michael P. Straub

Type or print name of person signing certification

Michael P. Straub

Signature

May 25, 2006

Date

APPENDIX

Copy of Interview Discussion Outline Submitted on April 20, 2006
by E-mail In Application S.N. 09/933,063